

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (25) in DH SEB CD/8/12/1 Pt.12

8 August 2017

Dear Doctor,

The first local case of dengue fever in 2017

We would like to draw your attention to the first local case of dengue fever (DF) recorded by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health in 2017 yesterday and to remind doctors to remain vigilant against this disease.

The patient was a 45-year-old man with good past health. He has developed high fever, chills, headache and dizziness since 29 July 2017. He was sent to the Accident and Emergency Department of Kwong Wah Hospital and was admitted for management on the same day. Upon admission, he developed skin rash over his legs. He has all along been in stable condition and had been discharged on 7 August 2017 after symptoms subsided. His blood sample tested positive for dengue virus upon laboratory testing.

The patient lives in a unit on Cedar Street, Prince Edward. He works in the construction site of West Kowloon Station (WKS) of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) near MTR Austin Station. During the incubation period, the patient had no travel history. He recalled frequent mosquito bites at his workplace and also some bites near his residence. His local movements before onset were mainly within his workplace and residence.

DF is an acute febrile illness with headache, retro-orbital pain, myalgia, arthralgia, rash, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia or haemorrhagic manifestations. The disease is transmitted by the bite of infective *Aedes* mosquito, which mostly bites in the daytime. The incubation period ranges from 3 to 14 days. Severe dengue is a life threatening complication of DF characterised by high fever lasting



2-7 days, haemorrhagic phenomena, low numbers of platelets and sometimes circulatory failure.

A telephone hotline (2125 1133) has been set up since 8 August 2017 from 9am till 5.45pm, Monday to Friday, to offer health advice to persons who have been to the vicinity of the construction site of WKS of the Hong Kong Section of the XRL or Cedar Street with DF symptoms. Laboratory investigation or referral to hospital will be arranged as appropriate.

We would like to seek your help to report suspected cases presented with symptoms compatible with DF to the Central Notification Office (CENO) of the CHP by fax (2477 2770), by phone (2477 2772), or via the CENO On-line website (https://cdis.chp.gov.hk/CDIS_CENO_ONLINE/ceno.html). Please also call our Medical Control Officer at 7116 3300 a/c 9179 outside office hour for prompt investigation. Please also arrange blood test for DF. As patient during viraemia is infectious, please admit febrile patients with DF to hospital for further management. Please also advise your patients with suspected DF to take protective measures against mosquito bites, especially when they are febrile.

Please draw the attention of the healthcare professionals and supporting staff in your institution/ working with you to the above. Thank you for your unfailing support in prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Yours faithfully,



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